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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U.S.D.A. Washington, D.C. SS-255 February 26, 1964

Cattle and Calves Inventory Up To Record High--Milk Cows Decrease

According to the Crop Reporting Board the inventory of cattle and calves on farms and ranches in the United States on January 1, 1964 totaled 106,488,000 head--up 3 percent from the 103,736,000 on farms a year earlier. The January 1 total of all cattle is the highest of record and the sixth consecutive year the inventory has shown an increase. The number of dairy stock (milk cows and replacement heifers) continued to drop and was 3 percent below a year earlier. An increase of 5 percent in other cattle more than offset this decline in the dairy herd.

The cattle inventory was above a year earlier in a majority of the States. The greatest percentage increase was shown by Montana, with a gain of 15 percent from the previous year. Six States showed no change in numbers, while 14 had fewer cattle on hand than on January 1, 1963.

Domestic Slaughter Up--Imports Down

Commercial cattle slaughter for the 48 States during 1963 totaled 27,235,300 head, up 4 percent from the year before. Calf slaughter, at 6,824,200 head, dropped 9 percent from the 7,494,300 head kill in 1962. Imports of live cattle from Canada and Mexico totaled 822,449 head during 1963, compared with 1,271,697 head in 1962.

January Work Features Livestock Care

Mid-winter continued to dominate the work pace on many farms in the farm labor survey week of January 19-25 despite milder weather in the eastern half of the nation. With field work completed or crowded out by winter, attention centered on the work and care required to maintain growth rates and production of dairy cows, other livestock, and poultry.

Fewer Hogs Than a Year Earlier

On January 1, 1964 there were 56,007,000 hogs and pigs on farms and ranches in the United States--5 percent less than the 58,883,000 on hand a year earlier, and 9 percent less than the 61,269,000 on hand December 1, 1963.

Inventory numbers of hogs showed a decrease from a year earlier in all regions of the country, with only a few scattered States showing increases. The number of hogs and pigs on hand in the Corn Belt (12 North Central States) showed a decrease of 4 percent on January 1, 1964, with a total of 43,825,000 head, or 78 percent of the 50-State total. The number of hogs on hand January 1, 1964 was down 6 percent from a year earlier in the North Atlantic region and 5 percent lower in the South Atlantic. Other decreases were 9 percent in the South Central region and 1 percent in the Western region.

The total value of hogs on farms January 1, 1964 was $1,309 million, a decrease of 19 percent from a year earlier. This decrease resulted from both fewer numbers and lower value per head.

Fewer Stock Sheep and Lambs

The number of stock sheep continued to decline for the fourth consecutive year. The January 1, 1964 number of stock sheep was 24,533,000 head, a decline of 5 percent from a year earlier and the smallest number on record since 1867. Numbers of

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective Parity Prices Based on Data for Jan. 1964
	Dec. 1963	Jan. 1964	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) .... ct.	31.27	30.12	40.78
Wheat (bu.) ..... dol.	1.97	2.00	2.52
Rice (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.92	5.07	6.35
Corn (bu.) ..... dol.	1.07	1.09	1.56
Peanuts (lb.) ..... ct.	11.1	11.2	14.1
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.) ..... ct.	58.6	58.5	77.3
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) ..... dol.	4.41	[1] 4.34	5.38
Wool (lb.) ..... ct.	[2] 47.3	[2] 48.7	79.5
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) ..... dol.	.946	.925	1.23
Cottonseed (ton) ..... dol.	50.70	49.00	62.90
Flaxseed (bu.) ..... dol.	2.77	2.83	3.82
Hay, baled (ton) ..... dol.	24.70	25.00	26.90
Oats (bu.) ..... dol.	.639	.646	.842
Potatoes (cwt.) ..... dol.	1.38	1.48	2.34
Rye (bu.) ..... dol.	1.19	1.17	1.38
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.76	1.76	2.44
Soybeans (bu.) ..... dol.	2.58	2.65	3.03
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) ..... dol.	4.69	4.94	5.73
Oranges, on tree (box) ..... dol.	4.26	4.30	3.22
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)... dol.	2.23	2.14	3.09
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.60	18.60	24.70
Calves (100 lb.) ..... dol.	22.40	23.00	28.20
Hogs (100 lb.) ..... dol.	13.50	14.40	21.70
Lambs (100 lb.) ..... dol.	17.50	17.90	24.70
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	12.7	13.7	22.6
Eggs (dozen) ..... ct.	35.1	37.8	47.0

[1] Preliminary
[2] Does not include incentive payment

sheep and lambs on feed for slaughter market on January 1, 1964 totaled 3,618,000 head--a decline of 11 percent from a year earlier and the lowest number since 1951. The aggregate of stock sheep and sheep and lambs being fed totaled 28,151,000 head--a reduction of 6 percent from last year.

Stock sheep inventories in all classes were lower than a year earlier. Ewes one year old and older totaled 19,625,000 head compared with 20,543,000 for January 1, 1963--a 4 percent decline. The number of ewe lambs totaled 3,200,000 head--5 percent below the 3,378,000 head on January 1, 1963. Rams 1 year old and older, at 775,000 head, were 6 percent below a year earlier. Wether and ram lambs were down 3 percent, and wethers 1 year old and older were down 12 percent from a year earlier.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1963				1964
	Jan.	Year	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	Mil.	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*	*Mil.*
Nonfarm employment, (civilian)[1]	61.7	63.9	64.5	64.6	63.2
Farm employment	4.6	6.5	5.6	4.8	4.5
Family	3.8	4.7	4.3	3.9	3.7
Hired	.9	1.8	1.3	.8	.8
	Index numbers (1957-59 = 100)				
Industrial production[2]	119	124	127	127	127
Total personal income payments[3]	124	127	129	130	131
Weekly factory earnings[4]	112	118	122	122	119
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker[4]	116	118	120	121	120
Wholesale prices, all commodities[4]	100	100	101	100	101
Farm commodities[4]	98	96	96	93	96
Food, processed	101	101	102	100	102
Consumer price index[4]	106	107	107	108	--
Food	105	105	105	105	--
	Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)				
Prices received by farmers	245	241	241	237	243
Crops	230	238	241	241	243
Food grains	231	224	224	226	230
Feed grains and hay	157	164	158	164	166
Cotton	254	270	274	264	254
Tobacco	488	496	483	488	489
Oil bearing crops	251	258	271	265	268
Fruit	216	279	294	309	306
Commercial vegetables	276	238	255	241	261
Livestock and products	257	244	242	234	242
Meat animals	308	289	272	259	274
Dairy products	259	252	271	268	265
Poultry and eggs	152	145	150	144	154
Prices paid by farmers:					
All commodities	284	283	282	282	283
Used in living	297	298	298	298	298
Used in production	274	272	271	270	273
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	312	311	311	311	313
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	663	677	681	681	673
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	79	78	77	76	78

[1] Bureau of the Census. [2] Federal Reserve Board. [3] Department of Commerce. [4] Bureau of Labor Statistics - any figures not available at press time omitted.

Goats Continue To Increase

The January 1, 1964 number of goats and kids on Texas farms and ranches was 3,978,000 head, 8 percent above the 3,683,000 head on January 1, 1963. The total inventory value of goats in Texas was $30 million compared with $26 million a year earlier. Average value per head this January was $7.50, up 50 cents from January 1 a year ago.

More Chicken--Less Turkey

The number of chickens on farms in the United States on January 1, 1964 (excluding commercial broilers) was 370,513,000, an increase of 1 percent from the 366,823,000 birds on farms a year earlier. The number of turkeys (excluding turkey fryers) on January 1, 1964 totaled 6,315,000 birds, 2 percent less than the 6,475,000 on hand January 1, 1963.

The number of chickens on farms was down 8 percent from a year earlier in the West North Central, and 3 percent in the East North Central States. Increases were 9 percent in the South Atlantic, 6 percent in the South Central and 2 percent in the West. Numbers in the North Atlantic region were about the same as on January 1, 1963.

Pullet Numbers Up

The number of pullets on farms January 1, 1964 is estimated at 216,104,000 birds as compared with 213,890,000 a year earlier--an increase of

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Dec. 1962	Jan.-Dec. 1963
Dairy Production			
Milk	Bil. lb.	[1] 10.1	[1] 10.1
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	1,928.8	1,869.5
Dry Nonfat milk solids (for human food)	Mil. lb.	2,225.8	2,130.8
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	1,534.5	1,401.2
Cheese, American	Mil. lb.	1,093.7	1,125.4
Ice Cream	Mil. gal.	701.8	721.0
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	[1] 5.2	[1] 5.3
Federally inspected slaughter:[2]			
Chickens	Mil. lb.	4,762.2	5,024.7
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	1,096.7	1,163.8
Poultry used for further processing	Mil. lb.	489.4	583.7
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	634.8	586.3
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	50.7	44.6
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	381.7	362.8
Meat Production (dressed weight)[3]			
Beef	Mil. lb.	14,931	16,050
Veal	Mil. lb.	936	846
Pork	Mil. lb.	11,229	11,868
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	795	757
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	27,891	29,521

[1] January 1963 and 1964
[2] Ready-to-cook
[3] Commercial: excludes farm slaughter

1 percent. Increases were 11 percent in the South Atlantic and 10 percent in the South Central States. Decreases were 6 percent in the West North Central, 3 percent in both the East North Central and the West, and 2 percent in the North Atlantic States. There were 135,116,000 hens on January 1, 1964 compared with 134,394,000 on January 1, 1963. Increases in hens were 12 percent in the West, 6 percent in the South Atlantic, 2 percent in the North Atlantic and South Central.

Highest Broiler Production

Commercial broiler production during 1963 in the 22 States covered by the weekly chick placement reports was nearly 2 billion birds--up 4 percent from the number produced in 1962 and the largest of record for these States. These 22 States produced about 93 percent of the nation's broilers in 1962.

Fewer Turkey Breeder Hens

The number of turkey breeder hens on farms January 1, 1964 was 3,781,000 compared with 3,852,000 a year earlier. This was a decrease of 2 percent.

Egg Prices, Feed Prices Rise

Egg prices during the period January through August averaged about 1 cent per dozen above the same period in 1962. Increases ranged from 0.1 cents in August to 3.1 cents in March. Prices during the period September through December averaged below a year earlier. Cost of the farm poultry ration averaged $3.54 per 100 pounds in 1963 as compared with $3.42 in 1962. The egg-feed and farm chicken-feed price ratios for 1963 averaged below those of 1962. The broiler-feed price ratio was also less favorable than in 1962.

Citrus Crop 2 Percent Smaller--More Valencias

Citrus production for the 1963-64 season is expected to be down 2 percent from last year with fewer oranges and grapefruit, but more tangerines and lemons. Although the total orange crop is smaller than last year, there will be more oranges between now and the end of the season than during the same period last year because of the larger crop of Valencias.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost[1]	Farm Value[2]	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1962 average	$1,068	$409	$659	38%
1962 Dec.	1,062	406	656	38%
1963 Nov.	1,074	395	679	37%
1963 Dec.	1,076	384	692	36%

[1] Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[2] Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

A little over half of the grapefruit crop was picked by February 1. There will not be as many grapefruit during the remainder of the season as there were a year ago.

Citrus trees are generally in good condition.

Winter Vegetables Output Above Average

Production of winter vegetables is expected to be 7 percent more than average, but slightly less than last year.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, November 1963[1]

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dol.	*1,000 dol.*	*1,000 dol.*
Maine	10,295	5,233	15,528
New Hampshire	3,799	787	4,586
Vermont	9,785	651	10,436
Massachusetts	8,123	4,408	12,531
Rhode Island	1,190	823	2,013
Connecticut	8,066	3,164	11,230
New York	54,312	14,247	68,559
New Jersey	12,335	6,762	19,097
Pennsylvania	48,416	13,156	61,572
Ohio	50,440	40,182	90,622
Indiana	52,049	56,434	108,483
Illinois	94,131	89,643	183,774
Michigan	30,645	32,479	63,124
Wisconsin	78,209	10,685	88,894
Minnesota	79,404	42,892	122,296
Iowa	153,159	71,392	224,551
Missouri	56,318	35,047	91,365
North Dakota	14,177	23,446	37,623
South Dakota	40,158	13,935	54,093
Nebraska	51,874	47,689	99,563
Kansas	46,644	40,126	86,770
Delaware	5,844	2,003	7,847
Maryland	15,691	3,872	19,563
Virginia	18,554	18,558	37,112
West Virginia	5,296	3,310	8,606
North Carolina	27,592	38,326	65,918
South Carolina	9,064	15,938	25,002
Georgia	33,414	19,003	52,417
Florida	15,993	105,602	121,595
Kentucky	21,724	134,215	155,939
Tennessee	17,834	51,943	69,777
Alabama	24,590	27,538	52,128
Mississippi	23,840	83,023	106,863
Arkansas	21,659	88,320	109,979
Louisiana	11,646	72,198	83,844
Oklahoma	22,078	26,057	48,135
Texas	77,373	256,929	334,302
Montana	9,825	16,830	26,655
Idaho	15,167	29,020	44,187
Wyoming	4,384	6,518	10,902
Colorado	28,165	26,579	54,744
New Mexico	7,339	15,928	23,267
Arizona	13,092	54,757	67,849
Utah	10,956	4,643	15,599
Nevada	3,498	1,473	4,971
Washington	17,347	30,435	47,782
Oregon	14,021	15,868	29,889
California	117,443	210,202	327,645
United States	1,496,958	1,912,269	3,409,227
United States, Jan.-Dec.	19,541,979	16,705,985	36,247,964
Same period, year ago[2]	19,986,549	15,934,615	35,921,164

[1] All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. [2] Revised.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States[1]

	December 1963	January 1964
CASH RECEIPTS	*Mil. dol.*	*Mil. dol.*
Total marketings and CCC loans[2]	3,409	3,400
Livestock and products	1,497	1,700
Meat animals	796	
Dairy products	403	
Poultry and eggs	277	
Other	20	
Crops	1,912	1,700
Food grains	129	
Feed crops	354	
Cotton (lint and seed)	525	
Oil-bearing crops	168	
Tobacco	201	
Vegetables	123	
Fruits and tree nuts	170	
Other	243	
Government payments	48	
Grand total	3,457	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:	1947-49 =100	
All commodities	158	159
Livestock and products	140	150
Crops	183	171

[1] For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. [2] Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. Items may not add up to totals because they are rounded off.

Florida Strawberry Increase Expected

Winter strawberry harvest in Florida is expected to increase during February and reach a peak in early March. Strawberry acreage for early spring is expected to be 58 percent larger than last year when drought reduced the acreage for harvest.

Expect Low Winter Potato Harvests

Winter potato production is estimated at 3,706,000 hundredweight, 4 percent less than the 1963 crop. Yield prospects improved in California during January while the Florida estimate is unchanged. In California, digging has been general in the Perris-Hemet district and in the San Joaquin Valley since late December. The rate of harvest has been moderate with some shippers digging only to fill orders. There is considerable acreage yet to be dug and harvest will continue active in February. In Florida moderate supplies from the Everglades area were steady throughout January with harvest in that section expected to be completed in early February.

Record Honey Crop in 1963

A record yield for the nation highlighted the 1963 honey season. Production, estimated at 299 million pounds, exceeded the previous record crop of 1961 by 9 percent, and the 1962 crop by 10 percent.

Production per colony in 1963 averaged 54.0 pounds, about 9 percent above both 1962 and the previous record set in 1961. The 5,536,000 colonies on hand at the beginning of the 1963 season were 1 percent more than the previous year. With the all honey producer price averaging 18.0 cents per pound compared with 17.4 cents a year earlier the 1963 crop was valued at $53,929,000--14 percent above 1962 and the highest of record since 1947.

Beekeepers reported that stronger domestic demands and a sharp increase in exports to foreign markets have kept stocks 2 percent below last year.

William T. Schanger, Editor

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